

DODGE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 17, 2021 4:00 P.M.

FIRST FLOOR – ROOMS H & I AUDITORIUM

DODGE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, JUNEAU, WI 53039

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Dodge County Executive Committee Chairman, Russell Kottke.

Members present: Frohling, Kottke, Marsik, J. Schmitt, and Sheahan-Malloy.

Member(s) absent: Schaefer, Hilbert (Excused).

Others present: Dodge County Administrator Jim Mielke; Corporation Counsel Kimberly Nass; ThriveED Executive Director Vicki Pratt; ThriveED Managing Director of Business Development Deb Reinbold;

Committee members reviewed and discussed the initial 2017 partnership contract with the Jefferson County Economic Development Consortium (JCEDC) and Glacial Heritage Development Partnership (GHDP) and the 2019 contract amendment. The contract(s) specify four areas of focus and obligations of JCEDC and Glacial Heritage, now known as ThriveEd.

Executive Director Pratt walked the committee through a PowerPoint presentation referencing the four areas and outcomes.

- Business: Grow Businesses, Capital Investment and Employment Opportunities
- Workforce: Attract, Develop and Align Talent
- Build Capacity: Grow the GDHP capacity to execute professional economic development program and services
- Marketing: Raise awareness of the area's assets to attract business investment, talent, and visitors with discretionary dollars,

Discussion followed regarding measurement of the outcomes related to the county's overall investment including identifying potential goals and measures, with a focus on the next 12 months.

ThriveEd suggested prioritizing connecting the private sector (businesses) with the schools and local municipal leadership to address future labor pool and obstacles to development. ThriveEd requested county support in making the above happen.

Discussion regarding the creation of an Economic Development Advisory Council to assist in priorities and measurables across the county. Direction of the Committee to initiate a discussion with municipal leadership through an initial discussion with county mayors, village presidents and town chairs at a March 29th meeting – tentatively scheduled for 1:00 p.m. with the meeting to be held in the Administration Building.

Committee members agreed the next step will be the March 29th meeting with county municipal leaders.

Chair Kottke declared the meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Russell Kottke, Chair